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CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR 27 2007

In the Claims:

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-23 Cancelled

24. (Previously Presented) Blister package opener apparatus comprising:
a blister package having blisters and a cover layer,
a frame connected to a top of the blister package, and
an opener connected to the frame,
wherein the frame covers the cover layer, the openers comprise lifting tabs
having ends hinged to the frame, and the outer ends of the tabs are hinged to the frame, and
further comprising raised guards surrounding inner ends of the tabs and bridges connecting the
raised guards for raising inner ends of the tabs above the guards only when the blister package is
bent, for grasping inner ends of the tabs and lifting the tabs around the hinges for providing access
to the cover layer opposite a selected blister.

25. (Previously Presented) Blister package opener apparatus comprising:
a blister package having blisters and a cover layer,
a frame connected to a top of the blister package, and
an opener connected to the frame,
wherein the frame covers the cover layer, the openers comprise lifting tabs
having ends hinged to the frame, and the tabs have side edges, and further comprising frangible
connectors connecting the side edges to the frame until the inner ends of the tabs are lifted.

Claims 26-48 cancelled

49. (Previously Presented) Blister package opener method comprising:

providing a blister package having blisters and a cover layer,
providing a frame connected to sides of the blister package,
providing an opener connected to the frame, and
covering the cover layer with the frame,

wherein the openers comprise lifting tabs having ends hinged to the frame and the outer ends of the tabs are hinged to the frames and wherein raised guards surround inner ends of the tabs and bridges connect the raised guards for raising inner ends of the tabs above the guards when the blister package is bent for grasping inner ends of the tabs and lifting the tabs around the hinges for providing access to the cover layer opposite a selected blister.

50. (Previously Presented) Blister package opener method comprising:

providing a blister package having blisters and a cover layer,
providing a frame connected to sides of the blister package,
providing an opener connected to the frame, and
covering the cover layer with the frame,

wherein the openers comprise lifting tabs having ends hinged to the frame and the tabs have side edges and wherein fractible connectors connect the side edges to the frame until the inner ends of the tabs are lifted.

51. (Previously Presented) Blister package opener method comprising:

providing a blister package having blisters and a cover layer,
providing a frame connected to sides of the blister package, and
providing an opener connected to the frame,

wherein the opener tabs are printed with days or numbers arranged with frangible connectors for providing visual destruction confirmation that a particular tab has been opened,

thus aiding in patient compliance and dose regimen tracking.

52. (new) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the frame covers all edges of the blister package.

53. (new) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the frame comprises a slide having joined front and back members for moving respectively over the blisters and over the cover layer and sliding along the blister package and wherein the openers are hinged at first ends to the frame and wherein the piercers are mounted on second ends of the openers for moving the slide over the blister package, moving the front over the blisters and moving the back over the cover layer until an opener is adjacent a selected area of the cover layer opposite a selected blister and pushing on the opener and piercer for piercing the selected area of the cover.

54. (new) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the front member has bridges over the blisters and is sufficiently strong to provide a stabilizing base when pushing inward on the opener.

55. (new) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the front and back members are joined by a hinge.

56. (new) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the frame overlies edges of the blister pack and has rails along opposite edges and slides having ends connected to the rails for sliding along the rails, a carriage moveable along the slides and wherein the opener is positioned on the carriage for moving with the carriage to a selected position adjacent a selected area of the cover layer opposite a selected blister for piercing the selected area and releasing contents of the selected blister.

57. (new) The apparatus of claim 56, wherein areas of the cover layer opposite the blisters are provided with push in and liftable tabs.

58. (new) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the frame is adhered to and covering the

cover layer and wherein the openers have opposite hinged and piercer ends and wherein the piercers are connected to the piercer ends and the piercers are curved.

59. (new) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the piercer ends are raised above the hinged ends.

60. (new) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the frame further comprises latches mounted near the piercer ends of the openers.

61. (new) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the latches comprise springs formed on the frame and tabs extending from the springs over the piercer ends of the openers for holding the openers inward until the springs and tabs are moved for preventing premature release of contents from the blisters.

62. (new) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the frame extends along opposite edges of the blister package and wherein the openers have slides connected to the frames, hinges connected to the slides and flaps connected to the hinges and wherein the piercers are mounted on the frame for positioning over selected areas of the foil cover layer opposite selected blisters for piercing selected areas of the foil cover layer for releasing contents of selected blisters.

63. (new) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the frame overlies edges of the blister package and wherein the openers are cantilevered inward from the frame and wherein the openers have free ends remote from the frame and the piercers are formed on the free ends of the openers.

64. (new) The apparatus of claim 63, wherein the openers are movable between positions adjacent and outside of the foil cover layer and positions pierced through the foil cover layers for releasing contents of the blisters and for holding contents of the blisters within the blisters until the openers are intentionally lifted from the pierced foil cover layer.

65. (new) The method of claim 50, wherein the frame covers all edges of the blister

package.

66. (new) The method of claim 50, wherein the frame overlies edges of the blister pack and has rails along opposite edges and slides having ends connected to the rails for sliding along the rails a carriage moveable along the slides and wherein the opener is positioned on the carriage for moving with the carriage to a selected position adjacent a selected area of the cover layer opposite a selected blister for piercing the selected area and releasing contents of the selected blister.

67. (new) The method of claim 66, further comprising providing areas of the cover layer opposite the blisters with push in and liftable tabs.

68. (new) The method of claim 50, further comprising adhering and covering the cover layer with the frame, and wherein the openers have opposite hinged and piercer ends, and further comprising connecting the piercers to the piercer ends, and wherein the piercers are curved.

69. (new) The method of claim 50, wherein the frame extends along opposite edges of the blister package and wherein the openers have slides connected to the frames, hinges connected to the slides and flaps connected to the hinges and further comprising mounting the piercers on selected areas of the cover layer opposite selected blisters and piercing the selected areas of the cover layer for releasing contents of the blisters.

70. (new) The method of claim 50, wherein the frame overlies edges of the blister package and further comprising cantilevering the openers inward from the frame and wherein the openers have free ends remote from the frame and the piercers are formed on the free ends of the openers.

71. (new) The method of claim 50, wherein the openers are movable between positions adjacent the cover layer and positions within the blisters for holding contents of the

blisters within the blisters until the openers are intentionally lifted from the cover layer.